GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5426
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2002
EXTORTION RACKET IN DELHI
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;S. SAIDUZZAMAN

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that an extortion racket is flourishing in Delhi, as reported in `The Times of India` dated April 04, 2002 and April 15, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Government have made enquiries in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether any action has been taken against the policemen involved in this racket;

(f) is so, the details thereof; and

(g) the measures taken to improve the image of the police?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) to (f): A vigilance inquiry conducted by Delhi Police to look into the allegations contained in the news report which appeared in `The Times of India` in its issue dated the 4th April, 2002 has prima facie established the complicity of some police officials. They have been placed under suspension pending formal departmental proceedings against them. However, no such inquiry could be conducted in respect of the allegations contained in the news report carried by `The Times of India` in its issue dated the 15th April, 2002 as these are devoid of any specific instances which could be effectively probed into.

(g): The steps taken by Delhi Police to curb corrupt practices in the police force and to improve its image include regular briefing of the staff by senior officers; surprise check by the Vigilance Branch; close watch on the police personnel suspected to be indulging in corrupt practices; transfer of persons with doubtful integrity to non-sensitive posts; encouraging the public to voice their grievances though complaint boxes put up at Police Stations, District Head-quarters, Police Head-quarters and through Help Line facilities and E-mail; examination of the complaints against police officials by senior officers; and award of exemplary punishment to those found involved in corrupt practices.